

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.-26. (Cancelled)

27. (New) A data storage system, comprising:

one or more memory devices;

a system controller each connected with the memory devices through respective first switches for data transmission;

a power source connected with the memory devices through respective second switches; and

a switching controller for switching on and off the first and second switches; and

an active interface translation element (AIT) which provides logical switching and electrical switching of data interfaces from the switching station through a virtual drive logical element to a host interface element (HIM).

28. (New) The data storage system of claim 27, wherein the active interface translation element (AIT) includes a virtual drive element which creates an appearance of a logical disk drive element to a host server system through a host interface element (HIM).

29. (New) The data storage system of claim 27, wherein the AIT element includes a maintenance module (MSM) which provides a monitoring of the memory device for predicting a failure of the memory device and executing operations required to minimize data loss and maintain integrity of the memory device.

30. (New) The data storage system of claim 28, wherein the active interface translation element (AIT) includes a host system with a virtual presence of a storage element over an established communication interface of the host system while allowing a switching of the storage element within the storage system, including power up, data read/write, and power down of the storage element.

31. (New) The data storage system of claim 28, wherein the active interface translation element (AIT) provides a virtual presence of a storage element even when the storage element is powered down.